

WEST VIRGINIA BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT COUNCIL

Wednesday, March 19, 2009 @ 9:00 a.m.

The second meeting of the West Virginia Broadband Deployment Council was held in Building 6, Room 6A on Wednesday, March 19, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.

The following members participated:

Kelley Goes, Chair
Lara Ramsburg
Jimmy Gianato
Elaine Harris
B. Keith Fulton
Dr. Jan Fox
Lee Fisher
Michael Keleman
Sonia Chambers

Additional participants:

Sarah Smith
Jonathan Caldwell
Byron Harris

After a quorum was established, Chair Goes welcomed the Council and called the meeting to order.

Business

Chair Goes asked for the approval of the minutes from the February meeting of the Broadband Deployment Council. The Council approved the minutes with no objection.

The next order of business was to discuss the actions of the EOI Evaluation Committee. It was noted that all committee members selected the same final three vendors. Chair Goes indicated that the committee would not make a recommendation, but instead serve as an information provider to the full Council. Chair Goes also noted that stimulus funding has changed some of the needs of the Council, such as how quickly the selected vendor could begin working on mapping, community development, etc.

Jimmy Gianato gave the report of the committee and explained the selection of the final three vendors. The finalists selected include: Kimball, Connect West Virginia and Design 9. Mr. Gianato explained that Kimball gave a presentation based largely on networking and next generation 911. Connect West Virginia discussed community outreach and mapping and it was noted that they emphasized their ability to assist with

stimulus funding. It was noted that Design 9 worked with cities by using broadband and was one of the 1st companies to use broadband residentially and in an industrial park.

Kyle Schafer and B.K. Fulton both suggested that perhaps a hybrid approach would be best; that maybe not just one vendor would be the most productive, but instead a combo approach. It was noted that there were 75 to 90 days to put together application for broadband funding. Lara Ramsburg made the point that the Council should look at who stands the best chance of getting the ball rolling and taking advantage of what resources and funding opportunities are available.

The Council then authorized a committee to continue negotiating with Connect West Virginia and potentially one of the engineering firms. The negotiation committee consists of B.K. Fulton, Jimmy Gianato, Lee Fisher, Kelley Goes and Elaine Harris.

Ms. Harris moved to authorize the committee to negotiate an agreement and enter into a contract with Connect West Virginia and to give the committee latitude to build a team to move the process forward. B.K. Fulton seconded the motion.

Legislative Rules Status

There was no update on legislative rules at this time.

Legislative Rule Status

Chair Goes reported that Senator Unger's bill, SB 299, required reporting to the Council. Jan Fox asked if there were any barriers present with legislation that needed to be solved. Chair Goes noted that there were none to her knowledge.

Other Business

It was noted that the Healthcare Authority submitted their report.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

The next meeting will be noticed for April 15, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. The meeting location, call-in number and agenda will be provided prior to the meeting.

With no other business, Sonia Chambers moved that the Council adjourn and Michael Keleman seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:48 a.m.